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BARRY GOLDWATER
ARIZONA

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

INTELLIGENCE, CHAIRMAN
ARMED SERVICES
  TACTICAL WARFARE, CHAIRMAN
  PREPAREDNESS
  STRATEGIC AND THEATRE NUCLEAR FORCES
COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION
  COMMUNICATIONS, CHAIRMAN
  AVIATION
  SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, AND SPACE
INDIAN AFFAIRS

October 1, 1984

Executive Registry
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The Honorable William Casey
Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D. C. 20505

Dear Bill:

It's just a matter of days now, until this Congress is ended and, with it, so will end my Chairmanship of the Intelligence Committee.
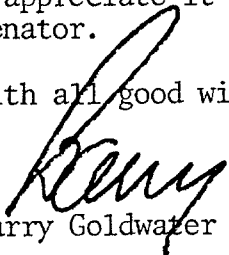
I just wanted to take these few minutes to tell you how very much I have enjoyed working with you and, at times, for you. I'm a tremendous believer in intelligence but I am an old fashioned person; I don't believe intelligence is the property of just anybody who comes along. I'd like to see intelligence in our country be the property of the intelligence community and the President of the United States, the Joint Chiefs, the National Security Council and the Congress only, I repeat, only, when it is needed.

I don't think I will get to see that. I've argued for it but to no avail. I'm afraid both committees, the House and the Senate, have now so spoiled the members that they think they're entitled to every little bit of information. I think that will explain to you why I never have come out to the CIA to harass you or to talk with you or to talk to the people under you. I've always felt that it's your property, the intelligence family's property, and not mine.

I have enjoyed being with you. I think you've done a heck of a good job and you've certainly brought the intelligence group a long way up the road that the Church committee darned near destroyed you on. Through you, will you please give my thanks to all of those people who work under you, with you and for you and for all of us, for the great job they are doing.

I appreciate it as an American citizen, not just as a United States Senator.

With all good wishes to you,

Barry Goldwater